British News.

The Queen's Progress in Germany.

QUEEN VICTORIA's Progress in Germany occupies columns of the London papers. She appears to be an early riser and sets out on her journeys before lazy people in general are out of bed—starting before 6 and travelling 14½ hours.

A female sovereign, receiving the homage of foreign sceptres, and cheered by countless myriads, is a tribute to the pacific characteristics of the age. She is not afraid to be seen—true dignity loses nothing, and gains much, of inherent respect, by showing itself in the broad glare of day, and in the "eye of the sun."

The newspapers record a beautiful sight at Coburg—her husband's paternal country—which the Queen enjoyed amazingly. We add a summary of her progresses, as reported by the Britannia:

The royal party made only a short stay at Coburg, and left for Rosenau—the summer palace of the Duke of Saxe Coburg. It lies some four miles out of town, amid meadows and hanging woods, and rich parterres of flowers. The building itself is curiously simple. And what will astonish English notions is the unexclusive character of all this. Not a wall, not a sentinel, not a gate. The day after the Queen's arrival, the correspondents of the English papers tell us, they saw peasant girls walking amid the flowers before the palace; the ordinary road passes close below—no fences or walls marking the ducal grounds from the surrounding country. These grounds are free to all; yet not a flower is plucked, nor a twig broken. As you approach the palace, the corn fields seem gradually to melt into parks and plantations; but these are in no way marked out or *labooed* from the surrounding country.

All this is very pleasant, and might teach us a lesson we should do well to learn and practice. The royal party reached Rosenau in good time in the evening. *It was in this Castle that Prince Albert was born*, and it was said that her Majesty and Consort were lodged *in the same room in which he first saw the light*. During the greater part of next day the Queen remained quietly at the palace, only proceeding in the afternoon to visit the fortress of Coburg—a grey old castle, crowning the summit of one of those wooded hills which surround Coburg—and in the evening going to the opera.

On Thursday her Majesty held a levee—"a quiet family affair," according to the reports of a levee at the town ducal residence. There was presented to her Majesty, the Grand Duke of Baden and his son, the Dowager Duchess of Coburg, the Princess Reuss, Count Mensdorf and his three sons, Prince Ferdinand and Prince Leopold of Coburg.

Her Majesty returned to Rosenau in the evening. On Friday a juvenile festival took place, and the Queen, leaning on the arm of the reigning Duke, the King and Queen of Belgians together, and Prince Albert conducting the Duchess of Kent, walked along the three lines in which the children were disposed—the boys and girls incontinently setting up a succession of juvenile hurrahs—which sounded after the low, general murmur of acclamation, like a concerto of whistles. The royal personages walked up and down the ranks, now and then stopping to say a word to some blushing little girl, or to pat an urchin's head; and at every word and at every pat there was another of the whistling corusses. And then came the dinner in the two pavilions.

Quite open they were. The people stood round not ten yards off, respectful, quiet, and orderly. It was quite a new sight, so many Kings and Queens eating their dinners in the most ordinary mortal fashion, actually allowing the world to see them using spoons and forks very much as other people do, while not a wall, not even a shred of canvass, concealed them from the masses of the peasantry and towsfolks around.

Since then, it would appear that the court has settled down into something like private life—little ceremony attending its movements among the quiet groves of Rosenau.

On Saturday night the royal party were at the theatre. On Sunday they went to church, the services being early over, and soon after midday a great part of the congregation adjourned to the outskirts of the town, where, in the course of half an hour, many were riding on hobby-horses, or witnessing the exploits of conjurors, while the little boys and girls were waltzing away in happy ignorance that there could be any impropriety in that sort of innocent enjoyment. Coburg is mostly a Protestant place.

The beauty of the neighbourhood of Coburg increases upon you the longer you stay. From every point fresh views open, and with the most delightful variety. Kallenberg, the favourite palace of the reigning Duke, distant about four miles from Coburg, commands some of the finest prospects. Like almost all the palaces or "residences" around, it is perched on an eminence, which is reached by a winding road through a plantation, quite as beautiful as that which leads to Rosenau. The interior of the palace is fitted up in the most elegant and at the same time "comfortable" style. Indeed, it deserves to be so characterised more than royal residences generally. There is no ostentation or display such as is met with in "show palaces," but everything is of the most perfect workmanship and in the most exquisite taste. Here the Duke and Duchess spend the greater part of their time during the fine weather, and a more delightful retreat could not well have been selected.

Her Majesty proceeded on the 27th from Coburg to Gotha. The party will remain until the 3rd or 4th instant, when they will return homeward.

COBURG, August 25.

Matters are so completely quiet here and at Rosenau, that it would be quite unnecessary to send this communication, except that the people of England may like to know that the Queen and her consort are well, and in the enjoyment of that repose which they so much required after the fatigues of travelling. Temporary seclusion from the cares of state, and the wearying splendours of Court life, at all times so welcome to Sovereigns, must become doubly agreeable when obtained in so delightful a place as that in which the Queen and Prince Albert now are. Their daily habits are the most simple. Up with the early morning, after a walk in the beautiful grounds around Rosenau, they breakfast in the open air, on a terrace at the back of the castle, which commands one of the loveliest views imaginable; promenades, or drives to view points of the neighbouring scenery, occupying the rest of the day till the dinner hour, which is 4 o'clock.

(From Bell's Messenger.)

FAILURE OF THE POTATOE CROP.—We deeply regret to state that accounts are reaching us every day respecting a fatal disease which has attacked this important article of food. We are unable to assign any other cause for the appearance and extent of this calamity, than the peculiar nature of the weather during the last four or five weeks. Until the last few days we have had almost incessant rain, and a very low temperature; facts sufficient, in our opinion, to account for the malady to which we are calling attention, and the effects of which will, we fear, be very painfully felt by the laboring classes of the community.

At present we have no reason to believe that the disease has exhibited itself in Yorkshire; neither do our accounts from Ireland, where millions depend upon it as the chief means of support, make any remarks upon it. As is remarked by one of our provincial contemporaries, the disease does not depend upon soil, for it prevails on granite and on clay; nor on situation, for hills and vallays are affected; nor on manure, for it is found in the fields dressed with guano, and the cottage garden manured with road scrapings; nor, apparently, on sorts, for old and new potatoes suffer.

The disease consists in a gradual decay of the leaves and stem, which soon become a putrid mass, and the tubers are affected by degrees in a similar way. The first obvious sign is the appearance on the edge of the leaf, of a black spot, which gradually spreads; gangrene next attacks the haulm, and in a few days the latter decays, emitting a peculiar and rather offensive odour. When this is severe the tubers also decay; in other cases they are comparatively unimpaired.

The failure of the potatoe crop in Belgium and Holland is almost universal; and with a view to prevent the sale of the decayed potatoes, and their use as food, the police in Belgium and Antwerp destroy all such as are brought to market.

Districts in England, &c. affected:—

Folkstone.—The crops of potatos this season will fall very short; there is scarcely a field to be seen that is not blighted.

Staplehurst.—In this place, as in many others in the vicinity, a strange phenomenon has occurred among the early crop of potatos, much of which has become affected with a serious kind of blight, so that they are unfit for human food.

Sheerness.—The disease in the potato crop has appeared in the plantations of the island, which are very extensive.

Canterbury.—A failure, to a great extent, will certainly take place this year in the potato crop. We hear of several fields having turned completely black, which has induced the owners to plough them up.

Deal.—Several growers of potatos in this vicinity are likely to be severe sufferers from a blight which has suddenly put a stop to their healthy vegetation.

Seaford (Sussex).—We regret to hear this is not likely to be a good potato year, owing to a blight: the haulm in various places is much affected and withered, producing a peculiar stench for some distance, the disease extending to the whole plant.

Hayle (Cornwall).—The potato crops never looked better than till within the last fortnight, when it was perceived that the leaves began to shrivel, soon after which the stems would decay, and the potatos under were discovered to be quite rotten. Many of the potato growers were looking forward for an abundant crop, but they are now sadly disappointed.

Isle of Wight.—The pestilence which has attacked the potato crop is very prevalent here; the extent of damage it is impossible to calculate.

Jersey.—Here also the disease has made its appearance, but at present, so far as has been ascertained, the tubers are not affected. Should it be found to have reached the tubers the calamity will be dreadful.

WEATHER PANICS.—The moist and foggy climate of England is proverbial with foreigners, and matter of half-melancholy joke with englishmen themselves. The perpetual verdure of our fields bespeak us denizens of a rainy zone—inhabitants of an intermitting shower-bath. Our speech betrayeth us; the weather is ever uppermost in our thoughts, and the first thing spoken of when friends meet. Aquarius is our Constellation.

The natives of such a clime might naturally be imagined as exempt from fear of rain as Mephistopheles alleges Faustus, the sworn brother of the Devil, ought to be from fear of fire. It is their element, which they ought to know cannot harm them or theirs. Yet they are as shy of rain as a kitten of dew when it first ventures abroad of a morning. England is a land where short crops occasionally occur, but where the years of utter blight which often lay other lands desolate are scarcely known; despite our frequent wet, raw, and ungenial summers, within the memory of our fathers and fathers' fathers, seed-time and harvest have not failed. Yet to an englishman a wet month of July immediately conjures up visions of famine, with pestilence and bankruptcies in its train. Burns was wrong when he said that they who are "constantly on poortith's brink" are little terrified by the sight; it is only those who are steeped in it over head and ears who become resigned to their fate. It is in those to whom a chance of emerging seems still open that the fear is strongest, to which the thoughtless Dives and the despairing Lazarus are alike inaccessible. And so with englishmen and the weather. Were their climate one in which no corn would grow, they would never think of crops; and were it so genial that the crops were always redundant, they would wax insensible to the blessing from sheer excess. But, living in a region to which hope ever comes, and from which fear never entirely departs, they abandon themselves too readily to unmanly fears. They are weather valetudinarians, a nation of Gratianos—"the wind cooling their broth blows them to an ague."

The public is slowly recovering from a sharp paroxysm of this kind. During the last two or three days it has been laid out to dry in the sun; and as it warms in the rays, it begins to admit that englishmen and english crops, like english frogs, take a deal of drowning.—*London Spectator.*

The Thirty Sail of Advanced Ships of the Line.—The following is a correct list of the thirty sail of the line, termed by the Admiralty "advanced ships;" ten being prepared at each of the three principal ports—Portsmouth, Devonport, and Sheerness. Excepting those marked with a star, they are eligible for commission at a moment's notice, and could be fitted for sea service without the aid of a single shipwright. They have their lower masts and bowsprits in, and have their tanks, water, gun-carriages, anchors, cables, and some portion of heavy stores on board, while ashore their masts, yards, sails, and guns in the ordnance department are all ready to be shipped, and are stowed in such a manner as to be available on any sudden emergency immediately. The ships are each docked in turn, in order to keep their copper from the accumulation of sea weed, &c.

At Portsmouth.—The Britannia, 120, the Neptune, 120, the Camperdown, 104, the Powerful, 84, the Vengeance, 84, the Bellerophon, 78, the Edinburgh, 72, the Hastings, 72, and the Pembroke, 72. The Indus, 78, making the ten sail for Portsmouth, is at Plymouth. The Nelson, 120, and the Carnatic, 72, are also ordered to be, and the President, 50, is an advanced frigate at this port.

At Devonport.—The St. George, 120, the Royal William, 120*, the Royal Adelaide, 104, the Nile, 92, the Bombay, 84, the Calcutta, 84, the Clarence, 84, the Foudroyant, 78, the Wellesley, 72*, and the Implacable, 72. The Indus, 78, at this port is a supernumerary ship for Portsmouth.

At Sheerness.—The Howe, 120, the Waterloo, 120, the Asia, 84, the Monarch, 84, the Ganges, 84, the Revenge, 76, the Achilles, 72, the Hercules, 72, and the Hawke, 72.

In addition to the above, the Boscawen, 70, and the Cumberland, 70, at Chatham, and the Impregnable, 104, and the Kent, 78, at Devonport; the Endymion, 44, at Devonport, and the Alfred, 50, at Portsmouth; the Southampton, 50, and the Raleigh, 50, at Chatham; and the Vernon, 50, at Sheerness, are fitting as advanced ships. The steam frigates the Terrible of 800 hundred horse power, and the Gladiator of 400, at Woolwich, the Retribution of 800 horse power at Chatham, the Sampson of 400 horse power at Sheerness, and the Scourge of 560 horse power at Portsmouth, are nearly fitted for commission.

Within the last fortnight the thirty sail have been ordered to take on board their topmasts and booms, and to have their gun tackle fitted.

Present from the Emperor of Russia.—Through the medium of the Russian Ambassador, Baron Brunow, his Imperial Majesty has recently sent to Mr. Snow Harris, of Plymouth, a handsome porcelain vase in token of the great estimation his Majesty entertains of Mr. Harris's ability in the construction of lightning conductors for shipping. The vase is a superior specimen of Russian skill, and is reported to have been made in a native manufactory under the especial care of the Royal Family. It stands 20 inches high, and is 19 inches diameter at the mouth. The body is of a very rich blue; the base is of burnished gold, and bears the following inscription:—"To W. Snow Harris, Esq., from H. I. M. Nicholas Pawlowitch, Emperor of all the Russias, January, 1845." The pedestal is of burnished gold and blue; the bowl and handles of elaborately figured burnished and dead gold, tastefully mingled; and on one side of the body, between the handles, is a very clever and appropriate marine painting, representing in the centre a ship in full sail, on the left a landing-place, and to the right fishing-boats, &c. The execution of the painting shows the advance of art in the north. The selection of this specimen of native Russian skill, as a fitting compliment for the acknowledgment of English talent, is highly creditable to the taste and discrimination of the Emperor of Russia, and must be most gratifying to the feelings of our ingenious countryman.—*Times.*

THE INCREASE OF DEMAND FOR IRON.—This most useful, and, in fact, most necessary metal for the welfare of man, is daily expanding its power, not only in Europe, but in Asia, Africa, and America. Railways are being laid down from north to south, and east to west. But this is not the only advantage that will be derived by great commercial nations as a rapid transit for passengers and merchandise, but the benefits it will bestow in tropical climes, so subject to earthquakes, where the lives of the inhabitants are constantly in jeopardy. Several very extensive contracts have lately been entered into in this country for the erection of iron houses, or villas in the West India Islands, Cuba, and the Havana, Mexico, Colombia, Bolivia, Central America, Peru, and Chili, where the dreadful effects of those convulsions of nature are so frequently felt. It is evident that iron will, in a few years hence, become one of the greatest articles of commerce for the security of individual life and private property. In referring to the late melancholy conflagrations at Quebec, where nearly the whole city was reduced to ashes, being chiefly built of wood, how different would it have been had galvanized iron been the principal article in building? Iron abounds in the Americas, both north and south, and only wants working to bring it into general use. How many lives would have been saved in the numerous earthquakes that have taken place the last fifty years in South America had they had iron dwellings instead of the wood and feeble fabrics they now possess? A change, however, we are glad to see, is very soon likely to take place by the erection of galvanized iron dwellings and warehouses in our West India colonies, Chili, and nearly all parts of South America, contracts having been entered into for the sending out of several well-constructed buildings of that metal.—*Mining Journal.*

FIRST RAILWAYS IN GREAT BRITAIN.—Everything about the growth, development, and administration of our modern railroads is on so gigantic a scale, that one contemplates, almost with incredulity, the principal points or stages of their advance, from their rude prototype, the tramways which appear to have first been laid down in the collieries about the middle of the 17th century, to the perfect construction of iron ways on our greatest lines in 1845; from the "Life of the Lord Keeper North." Haydn gives the following notice of these trams, under the date of 1676, by the learned narrator (Charles the Second's chancellor):—"The manner of the carriage is by laying rails of timber from the colliery to the river, exactly straight and parallel; and bulky carts are made with four rollers fitting those rails, whereby the carriage is so easy that one horse will draw down four or five chaldrons of coals, and is an immense benefit to the coal merchants." The colliery trams were made of iron, at Whitehaven, in 1738; but the first considerable iron railroad was laid down at Coalbrook Dale in 1767. Canal and mining companies occasionally laid down metal trams to connect their smaller branches with their larger works. The first iron railroad to which the formal sanction of parliament was given, by an act passed in 1801, was the Surrey iron railway (by horses) from the Thames at Wandsworth, to Croydon. This part of the recapitulation should probably close with the Liverpool and Manchester Railway (by engines), as the first of those larger and more costly enterprises which are at present the admiration, not only of this country, but of Europe.

Dunfermline—Renovation of the Old Abbey Church.—The ruinous and dilapidated state of the Old Abbey Church has long been matter of regret to many interested in the preservation of such an ancient building. To remedy this, however, a petition, signed by the heritors and many gentlemen of the neighbourhood, was lately forwarded to the Commissioners of Woods and Forests, praying that something might be done for the Church. In answer to this, Mr. Nixon, crown architect for Scotland, was commissioned to inspect and report upon the state of the Abbey, and that gentleman, with his assistants, has lately been making a complete survey of the place, and the result is, that it is in contemplation to give the building a new roof, to restore the windows to their former size and style, to beautify the old pillars; in fact, to give the church a complete overhaul and renovation, and make it somewhat like as when Malcolm, its founder, and his good Queen Margaret, trod its sounding aisles. The expense is estimated at £2000, and we hear that the work may probably be proceeded with this season.—*Fife Herald.*

Mr. Winterbottom, a few years since Mayor of Stockport, but transported for forgery, sailed for Norfolk Island on Tuesday with other convicts. Norfolk Island is the most severe penal settlement belonging to Great Britain.

Extraordinary Inquiry.—The body of Lieut.-General Dick, who died so far back as March, 1841, has been exhumed, on the arrival of his son from India, in consequence of suspicions that deceased came to his death by foul play. The inquiry has resulted in the following verdict.—"That the deceased had died from an inflammation of the stomach and bowels, but how this was produced there was no evidence to show."

The Danger of Eating Mussels.—On Monday, a man and his wife, named Walters, residing in Crown street, Soho, together with their child, were attacked with most alarming symptoms, in consequence of having eaten profusely of mussels, their bodies and heads being swelled in a frightful manner. Medical assistance was procured, with the desired effect, to the man and woman; but the child, a boy about four years of age, is still in a precarious state.

Mr. Green, who ascended in his balloon on Wednesday night from Vauxhall-gardens, effected one of the most fearful descents ever recorded in the annals of aerostation; he became entangled with the netting, was dragged between four and five miles in the direction of the river Mersey, but, by the interposition of Providence, his life was miraculously spared, his only injuries being a few severe bruises. The balloon, with all its apparatus, is lost. The remnants of the balloon were picked up on Thursday from the water off the "flats" or sands at Cliffe, beyond Gravesend. It was torn to pieces.

There are no less that six towns in Great Britain bearing the name of Newport.

On Friday Mr. Baillie was elected representative of Linlithgowshire without opposition.

At Taymouth Castle, Perthshire, the old gate keeper, 83 years of age, was gored to death, a few days ince, by the bisons which are kept in the park.

Mr. Maitland, reformer, has been elected representative for Kirkcudbright, by a majority of 486 to 384, over Lieut. M'Donall, conservative.

A frightful explosion of fire-damp occurred in the Jarrow colliery on the Durham side of the Tyne on Thursday. Thirty-nine lives were lost.

The wheat imported from Ireland from 1st January to 1st July last, was 149,603 quarters; barley, 26,232 quarters; oats, 876,644 quarters; wheat-meal and flour, 816,462 cwt.; and oatmeal, 607,041 cwt.

The Vigilante, a new war steamer, built in the Thames for the Spanish government, has attained a speed of fourteen miles an hour! This is the fastest war steamer in the world.

Ilfracombe has been the scene of a distressing event. A lady bathing in the sea was on the point of drowning, when a gallant shoemaker jumped into the water, with a rope, which he threw to her, and her life was saved, but the brave fellow himself was drowned.

The Sycee silver just arrived from China is to be sold by public competition.

On Tuesday a fishing boat was wrecked at Dunbar, and the crew, five persons, drowned. The master was saved. A fishing boat, with six persons, put off to their assistance, but this was driven amongst the rocks, and the whole of the latter crew were also lost.

The late Mrs. Lawrence, of Studley-park, has bequeathed £5000 to the Ripon Church Building Society.

On the 1st instant, the Bishop of London laid the first stone of a new church in Charlotte-street, Fitzroy square, for which a sum of £5,000 was placed in his lordships, hands by some unknown individual.

Peter Ainsworth, Esq., M. P. for Bolton, has lately made a donation of £500 to the Chester Diocesan Church Building Society, and has also become an annual subscriber of £50.

Clergymen of the Church of England are much wanted at Tasmania. Government has offered £200 per annum to twelve clergymen of the Church of England, if such can be found to offer themselves within six months, after which time it will be given in other directions.

THE FREE CHURCH.—After raising £600,000 or £700,000 for churches, the Free Church of Scotland determined recently to have a college, and twenty individuals instantly put down their names for £1000 each for the purpose. Since then they have commenced a subscription to build parsonages for their ministers, and in a few weeks £40,000 or £50,000 has been raised for that purpose.

The Royal children are at Osborne House under the charge of Lady Lyttleton.

His Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge will leave for Germany in the course of next week, and it is understood purposes to go to Berlin, on a visit to the King of Prussia, and subsequently visit their Serene Highnesses the Grand Duke and Grand Duchess of Mecklenburgh Strelitz, at New Strelitz, the King of Hanover, &c.

A claim to the Scotch peerage of Lovat, which has been suspended, since the execution of Lord Lovat in 1746, has been put in by the Rev. A. G. Fraser, A.M.

His Royal Highness Prince George of Cambridge is on a visit to Sir William Massey Stanley, at the worthy baronet's shooting box in Inverness.

The first sod of the Waterford and Kilkenny Railway was raised on Thursday week amidst great rejoicings.

There were only six prisoners for trial at the Lancaster Assizes last week, the smallest number since 1796, when there was exactly the same number, which, at that period, was deemed the fewest ever known.—*Liverpool paper.*

Presentation of Colours to the 65th Regiment.—This Regiment was on Wednesday the 27th instant, presented with new colours by the lady of General T. Grosvenor, with all the usual ceremonies observed on such occasions.

THE DUKE OF SUSSEX'S LIBRARY.—The number of days consumed in the disposal of this extensive collection of books was 65, and the total amount produced by the sale £19,149 1s. From this it will be seen that the executors have gained upwards of £2000, by the government not accepting their offer. The collection cost the late illustrious Prince between £15,000 and £16,000; but then it must be taken into consideration that a great addition was made to the library by the number of books presented to him being added to those he purchased.

THE CHINESE LANGUAGE.—It will be seen from an advertisement that this language may be learned at our Collegiate Institution, from Woo Siensang, a native professor, whose services the directors have been so fortunate as to secure. This is, perhaps, the first attempt which has hitherto been made to introduce the study of the Chinese language within the walls of educational establishments in this part of the kingdom; and if the directors be supported as they ought to be in this mercantile community, whence a large exportation to China may be expected to take place, we have no doubt that such a professorship will be permanently attached to this important institution. Professor Woo is said to speak the court dialect of his country, having been for some years an *employe* of the Chinese government. He has visited this country as the tutor of the son of a distinguished missionary, and report speaks highly of his ability to impart a knowledge of of his vernacular tongue in its purest form.

FASHIONABLE PROFUSION DURING THE LAST CENTURY.—At this period it was the fashion to place on the board pyramids of fruit and sweetmeats, so huge, that it was impossible to see people at opposite ends of the table. In some houses the doors were made higher, in order to admit the pyramids of fruit, as a century or two earlier they had been heightened that the ladies might carry their head-dresses through unscathed. "Pyramids of fruit," is the usual term in describing desserts then; and Walpole records of one most aristocratic *fete*, given by Miss Chudleigh (Duchess of Kingston), that on all sideboards, and even on the chairs, were pyramids and troughs of strawberries and cherries: you would have thought she was kept by Vertumnus.—*Mrs. Stone's Chronicles of Fashion.*

Melancholy Accident.—On Wednesday, the 3rd inst., Mr. David Henderson, of Jersey City, left his iron works, situated at Adirondac, Essex County, New-York, and went into the wilderness in company with John Cheeney, a celebrated hunter, who was much attached to him, his son, his agent, and a mill-wright, to examine some of the tributaries of the Hudson. On coming to a small lake, Mr. Henderson observed some trout, and expressed his surprise at seeing them. He then ordered some of the men to prepare a raft, with which they might enter the lake and fish. While this was in preparation on the opposite side of the lake, Mr. H. and his superintendent were left with the packs which they had brought with them. Wishing to obtain some more elevated place than they then occupied, while the raft was being prepared, Mr. H. took up a pack in one hand, a mineral hammer in the other, and his pistol in a leathern case under his arm. He had got to a rock a few yards in advance of his agent, and while laying the different articles upon it, the pistol accidentally went off, lodging the ball in his side and passing up through the region of the heart. He immediately turned round, walked a short space, till he met his attendant, and laying his hands upon his shoulders, looked round on the place and remarked, "What a sad accident in such a place. O, what will become of my wife and family!" Mr. Portcous, the agent, told him to compose himself—the Lord would be merciful to them—and that the accident might not be fatal. But he immediately added, that he was done of this world and all its concerns, for he felt that he was dying. Being laid on the ground he engaged for a short time in prayer, and commended his soul into the hands of his Maker. By this time his son, a boy about eleven years old, and the other attendants, had come up to the spot.—Looking up he saw Cheeney, and said—"That pistol must have been cocked." Then fixing his eyes upon his son, he told him to give his love to his mother, and to be a good boy. He then engaged in prayer, and was heard offering up the same petition as before, "that God would take his soul, if it was his will, to himself." Soon after this he gave directions to Cheeney to go to the iron works for assistance, as he could go through the woods the quickest, and in about ten minutes afterwards he died, having his eyes fixed on his son as long as he could keep them open.

His remains had to be left in the woods all night guarded by two men, until a road could be cut from the settlement to take him to his afflicted family. The body was brought to Albany on Saturday evening, and on Sabbath afternoon was interred in the Evergreen Cemetery.—Mr. Henderson was a native of Scotland, but had resided in Jersey City a number of years.

Mr. Henderson was a native of Scotland, but has resided many years in this country, and was highly respected.—*New-York paper.*

PETER FUNKS AND THE MAYOR.—We have heretofore stated how the Mayor has proceeded to put down the mock auction shops; and we have now heard a story which we must give to our readers. The Mayor has caused boards to be placed in front of these swindling shops, with the inscription, "Beware of Mock auctions." We understand that the board was planted in Broadway the other day, on information being sent to the chief of police that a young countryman had been cheated out of $45 at a place near the corner of Cedar-street. An application was made to have the money restored, but the keeper of the place would not give up a cent. The admonitory banner had the desired effect, and the "honorable man" soon made his appearance at the chief's office, paid the $45, and begged that the banner might be removed. But the keeper of one of these nuisances in Broadway seems to feel the most on this subject. We are told that he called on the Mayor yesterday, and after giving him a regular rating, threatened to buy the whole city press for five hundred dollars, and print his Honor down. The Mayor is, of course, extinct.—[New York Morning News.

Frightful Hydrophobia Case.—Last Sunday Morning, a laborer in the employ of Mr. Hallet, a farmer at Cuckfield, took three horses from the stable and turned them into the field. Shortly afterwards one of the animals began to evince symptoms of hydrophobia, tearing up the earth, dashing wildly all round the field, biting the other horses most fearfully, and gnawing the gate posts and rails, seizing the stones in the path with his teeth, and throwing them into the air with great violence. Whilst the fit was on, a boy accidentally passed through the field, and had a most miraculous escape. He was attacked by the infuriated animal, and he may attribute his fortunate escape to his umbrella, which the horse seized with great violence, tossed it into the air and then bounded off, leaving the boy an opportunity of escape, of which he speedily availed himself. The fit was on him several hours, during which time he had lacerated himself in a shocking manner. At length he became exhausted, and dropped dead in the field. The other horses have since been destroyed.—*Canada Herald.*

THE OBSERVER.

ST. JOHN, TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 1845.

The second september mail, per the steam ship Cambria, is now eleven days from Liverpool, and has probably arrived at Halifax.

Her Majesty's steamer *Vesuvius*, Commander O'Callaghan, having on board Major General Sir Jeremiah Dickson, Commander of the Forces in Nova Scotia and New-Brunswick, and suite, arrived at this port early on Saturday morning last, from Halifax. The Vesuvius also brought a detachment of Royal Artillery, under the command of Capt. Stanway, to relieve Capt. Mee's Company, which has been stationed in this Province for two years past, and which we learn shortly returns to England.

Sir Jeremiah Dickson inspected the Troops in this Garrison on Saturday morning, and at noon on that day proceeded to Fredericton in the steamer New Brunswick, to perform a similar duty at that place. Sir Jeremiah returned to this City last evening, and took lodgings at the St. John Hotel. He this morning proceeded on board the Vesuvius.

Capt. Mee's Company of Royal Artillery also embarked on board the Vesuvius, this morning, and about 9 o'clock she got under way, and after taking a turn round the upper harbour proceeded on her course for Halifax.

The Juvenile Concert last evening, at the Mechanics' Institute, was numerously attended. The performances were highly creditable to the Masters and Misses composing the choir, (pupils of Mr. Bennison's Singing School,) and gave much satisfaction to the audience. Much credit is due to Mr. Bennison, for the manner in which the Concert was conducted, and for the evident improvement of the children in their musical instructions. Several of the young Misses sang solos, with great applause.

PROVIDENTIAL ESCAPE.—The Fredericton Head Quarters of Wednesday last furnishes the following account of a most miraculous escape of the Lady and family of the Lieutenant Governor, while taking a ride in the vicinity of the city:

We understand that on Tuesday week, the 16th inst., while Mr. Charles Simonds, Junr., was driving His Excellency's carriage, containing Lady Colebrooke and Miss and Mr. George Colebrooke, one of his reins broke, by which accident he lost his balance and fell from the box, and during the fall lost the remaining reins, but fortunately escaped with a few slight bruises.

The horses feeling themselves at liberty, ran off at a rapid pace, and the servant who sat behind the carriage, endeavouring to recover the reins, but being unable to do so, was also left behind on the road.

Mr. Grant of the Crown Land Department, who was walking home from the office, heard shouting behind him, and on turning round perceived the carriage advancing towards him at full speed, with no driver on the box, and the ladies making signs of distress. Mr. Grant had fortunately time to make up his mind how to act, stepping a little aside he remained perfectly still, for fear of frightening the horses off the road, and when the off leader came abreast of him, he made a grasp at, and secured the reign; pulling outwardly with a sudden jerk he fortunately succeeded in throwing the horse off his legs—this stopped the carriage, breaking only part of the splinter bar. Perceiving that the pole horses were inclined for a second start, he darted round, seized them by the heads, and managed to keep them quiet until all had safely descended from the carriage. Mr. Grant certainly deserves credit for courage and great presence of mind, on an occasion where both were so much wanted.

We are informed that a number of spirited capitalists are about forming another Water Company; they propose to bring the water from Cold Brook or Little River, and furnish it at a much less rate than that charged by the present company.—[Chronicle.

The new steam propeller "Robert Rankin" arrived here on Thursday, from Boston, where she had been to receive her machinery. The revenue laws require their being re-landed here, which will be complied with, and the vessel fitted for sea in a few days.—[Ib.

PROVIDENTIAL ESCAPE FROM DROWNING.—The schooner Defiance, Capt. Bisset, from Herring Cove, for this port, with a cargo of ship timber, sprung aleak about nine o'clock on Wednesday morning last, and filling with water, fell over on her beam ends. The wind was blowing a gale at the time, and those on board (five in number, including a passenger, Mr. John Cunningham, Jun. of this City,) secured themselves to the main rigging, in which situation they remained for nine hours, the sea constantly breaking over the vessel. During the time several schooners passed them, but, owing to the violence of the gale, could not render them any assistance. The schooner Sarah Ann, Capt. Atkinson, from Cumberland for Boston, finally succeeded in taking the sufferers from their perilous situation and landed them on Partridge Island at the entrance of this harbour. They speak in great praise of the exertions of Captain Atkinson, who remained by them for some time before he was able to rescue them,—four other schooners having previously passed by without attempting to take them off.—*Courier.*

A Coroner's Inquest was held at Kingston Parish, King's County, on the 29th instant, before Isaac Haviland, Esq. Coroner, on view of the body of Josiah Urquart. It appears that the deceased was on board of a wood boat beating down through the Long Reach, on the 15th, and was knocked overboard by the main boom, (the wind blowing hard at the time) and was drowned. Verdict of the Jury accordingly.—Ib.

INQUESTS.—On Saturday evening last, an Inquest was held at Mispeck, in the Parish of Simonds, in this County, before Henry Porter and William O. Smith, Esquires, in the absence of the Coroner, on view of the body of Samuel Russel, who had put an end to his existence that morning by cutting his throat with a razor, when in a state of insanity. Verdict accordingly.

It appeared in evidence that the dwelling house and furniture of the deceased were consumed by fire last May, a loss which he was unable to repair;—this, together with the injury his Potatoe crop had sustained from the prevalent blight or rot, had affected his mind to such a degree as to cause him to commit the rash act. He was probably upwards of 60 years of age.

Another inquest was held in this City yesterday morning, before the same Justices, on view of the body of Patrick Dougherty, who was found drowned in the Harbour at the west end of Tilton's wharf. Verdict—"Accidental death by drowning."

The deceased had lived as servant with James Peters, Esquire, Jr., for some years past, and was esteemed as a sober, faithful man. He had occasion to go on board the Steamboat last Thursday nigh, and was not seen afterwards, until his body was found on Sunday morning. The Jury in giving their verdict, expressed themselves strongly as to the necessity of having better gangways to communicate with Steamboats in this harbour, and also the further necessity of having sufficient Lamps on the W[illegible] nights. We earnestly hope the owners of steamboats will avail themselves of the suggestion.—*New-Brunswicker.*

SEIZURE.—On Friday night the Officers of Her Majesty's Customs at this port seized a large Whale Boat, with between four and five hundred gallons spirits and a quantity of oil cloth clothes.

BEARS.—The Woodstock Telegraph says that Mr. Charles Bull, of that neighbourhood, has been so successful in trapping Mr. Bruin, that he caught a bear each night for four nights consecutively last week.

FIRE IN CHATHAM.—About four o'clock yesterday morning the inhabitants of the town of Chatham were aroused from their slumbers by the cry of fire and the ringing of the fire-bell. On proceeding to scene of action, we perceived that the dwelling of Mr. Henry Wyse was enveloped in flames, and that there was no prospect, as far as his premises were concerned, of arresting the progress of the flames.

The fire speedily communicated itself to the Methodist Chapel, nearly adjoining, which at different times appeared destined to destruction; but by strenuous exertions, as fast as it was discovered to be on fire, the people succeeded in putting it out. several of the windows were entirely consumed, and so intense was the heat in the gallery, that the benches were charred and blackened. The premises have suffered considerable—but how they were ultimately saved appears to us almost miraculous. By persevering and untiring exertion the premises abutting on the upper side of Mr. Wyse's house, was also saved, although, at one time there appeared put litte prospect arresting the flames until it reached the street at the end of the square.

There was providentially a most ample supply of water, and but little wind stirring at the time.—*Miramichi Gleaner, Sept 27.*

POTATOE ROT.—Accounts from all parts of the country mention that the Potatoe Crop is almost totally ruined by blight or rot. The cause of this dreadful and extensive evil is a profound mystery, and has baffled the discernment of all who have attempted to investigate it. We hear the failure is very extensive in the Counties of Lunenburg, Pictou, and Cumberland. The county of Halifax will also suffer much but not generally.—*Halifax Recorder.*

We are told that the Wolves have resumed their depredations, and have killed upwards of 150 sheep on the Windsor Road, this season.—*Ib.*

TORONTO, Sept. 16th.—We have heard with much pleasure that a munificent individual in England, whose Christian humility will not permit his name to be known, has placed at the disposal of the Lord Bishop of Toronto a sum of Five Thousand Pounds sterling, to be devoted to the erection and permanent endowment of a Church in such part of the Diocese of Toronto as the Bishop may appoint—to be called "The Church of the Holy Trinity," to be a "Free Church" alike to rich and poor, and the fight of presentation to be vested in the Lord Bishop and his successors.

We are informed that the body of Mrs. Morrison, of Berthier, which was found in a state of petrification, has been removed to the New York Museum; it having been purchased by that institution for £500.—*Montreal Aurore.*

Mr. Waring, the newly appointed British Consul to Norfolk, together with Mrs. Waring, and F. J. Cridland, Esq., Vice Consul for the same place, arrived in the Great Western.—Mr. Waring succeeds that highly honourable and worthy man, Mr. Gray, who retires after a service of nearly thirty years.

Mr. Wake, the newly appointed Consul for North and South Carolina, in the room of Mr. Ogilvie, also arrived in the Great Western. Mr. W. is accompanied by his lady.—*New-York Albion.*

The consecration of the Rev. Alonzo Potter, D. D., as Bishop of Pennsylvania, was to take place at Philadelphia on Thursday last.

ARRIVAL OF MR. EVERETT.—HON. EDWARD EVERETT, with his family, arrived in this city, yesterday, in the steamer Britannia, from Liverpool. After an absence of four years from his country, during which time he has represented our nation at the Court of Great Britain. Mr. Everett has returned to his home. At the highest foreign court, he has discharged the important functions of his diplomatic station, with great assiduity, discretion and ability—and it may be said with the utmost truth, that in the line of distinguished men who have successively represented these United States at the British Court, none have served their country more faithfully, discharged all their duties more diligently, or borne themselves with more honor and ability than Mr. Everett. We cordially welcome him on his return to his country and his friends.—*Boston Atlas.*

The King of Prussia's Toast at Brühl.—The Moniteur Belge contains the following, under date Cologne, 13th August:—"The following are the exact words of the toast which the King of Prussia gave yesterday at the dinner at Brühl, and which was received with the liveliest enthusiasm by the august guests:—'Sirs—Fill your glasses to the brim! The burthen of the toast is a word (un cri) which resounds with an inexpressible charm in all British and German hearts. One day it sounded as the sign of a fraternity of arms, triumphant upon a field of battle with difficulty gained. This day, after a peace of thirty years' duration, the fruit of those arduous days, it resounds in the lands of Germany, on the banks of the noble stream of the Rhine. That word is—VICTORIA! Sirs, empty your glasses to the Bottom. The toast is—Her Majesty the Queen of Great Britain and Ireland. Long live the Queen Victoria, and her illustrious Consort."

Progress of Iron Ships and Screw Propellers.—We understand that the firm of James Hodgson & Co. iron ship builders of this town, are building, among